Wagaikulam Airports

1393. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Vagaikulam Airport commissioned two years ago has not been in use and no flights have been operated for a year; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHU LAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Due to operational and commercial reasons, Vayudoot Limited had to discontinue its operation from Vagai-culam Airport.

Installation of CCTV surveillance system

1394. SHRI S, MADHAVAN; Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether computer circuit boards have been stolen from International Airports Authority of India's (IAAI) air-cargo complex at Madras;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what are the steps taken to install the CCTV surveillance system with recording facility to monitor the cargo export and import areas?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHU-LAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Out of a total of 37 Printed Circuit Boards (PCB) belonging to M/s Videsh Sanchar Nigam (VSN), 29 were stolen. The value of total consignment was Rs. 30,77,353_ out of which items worth Rs. 25,91,000/-were stolen. At the time of theft the cargo was under the care of the agent of VSN and neither the International Airports Authority of India nor the Airlines had been handed over the cargo.

The Police so far, have recovered 23 out of 29 stolen PCBs. Besides, 12 persons have been arrested toy police in this connection.

(c) The action to provide surveillance CCTV system to prevent theft/ pilferage, costing about Rs. 32 lacs has been worked out'

X-ray unit at Madurai Airport

1395. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the airports which have nat been provided with X-ray baggage inspec tion system;

(b) what are the steps taken to provide electronic aids for pre-emb-arkation security checks in all the airports;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is no X-ray inspection system for hand-baggages at Madurai Airport; and

(d) if so, whether Government would take steps to provide X-ray unit at Madurai airport which attracts foreign tourists?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) All airports excepting Madurai Airport, where Indian Airlines|Air India are operating, are provided with X-ray Baggage Inspection System.

(b) X-ray Baggage Inspection Sys tem, Hand—Held Metal Detectors, Door—Frame Metal Detectors and Ex plosive Detectors are provided at the airports for security checks.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A small sized X-ray Baggage Inspection System for checking hand baggage will be provided at Madurai Airport by Decemer, 1894.